

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: WIMMROITHER, W. ET AL-1  
PCT NO.: PCT/AT2003/000318  
FILED: OCTOBER 22, 2003  
TITLE: PROTECTIVE CAP FOR A CONTACT PIPE IN A WELDING  
TORCH IN ADDITION TO A WELDING TORCH EQUIPPED WITH  
SAID CAP

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**MAIL STOP PCT**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the initial Office Action, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this  
paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of  
claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.